



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



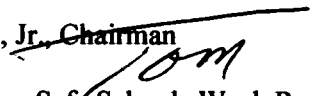
JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

August 13, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., ~~Chairman~~ 

SUBJECT: Approval of Michigan Safe Schools Week Resolution

The Michigan State Board of Education is being asked by the Michigan Safe Schools Initiative to approve a resolution declaring October 19-25, 2003 as Michigan Safe Schools Week. A similar resolution was approved in 2002. Governor Jennifer M. Granholm will also be issuing a proclamation.

The Michigan Department of Education is a partner in the Michigan Safe Schools Initiative, a coalition of state and local agencies which include The Education Alliance, Family Independence Agency, Office of Drug Control Policy, Michigan State Police, Attorney General's Office, Michigan State University, United States Secret Service, Michigan Sheriff's Association, Prosecuting Attorney Coordinating Council, Oakland Schools, Ingham Intermediate School District, Lansing School District, and others.

The Initiative sponsors the annual Michigan Safe Schools Week campaign, which includes the broad dissemination of print and web-based information, as well as activities and resources to help schools create and maintain safe and secure learning environments. Information will be disseminated to all public and private schools, and to the constituent groups of the member organizations.

The objectives of the campaign are to: encourage schools to use the safety pledge as a tool for school violence prevention; support student leadership in planning and implementing safe school programs; identify promising components of their local school safety programs; practice or "exercise" their school safety plans; and conduct school security surveys.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Resolution *Michigan Safe Schools Week, October 19-25, 2003*, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 13, 2003.

Attachment

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

State of Michigan
State Board of Education

RESOLUTION

MICHIGAN SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK
OCTOBER 19-25, 2003

WHEREAS, the goal of Michigan Safe Schools Week is to motivate key educators, law enforcement, and other emergency responders to work with students, parents, and community leaders to vigorously promote school safety; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of this campaign are to encourage schools to use the safety pledge as a tool for school violence prevention, support student leadership in planning and implementing safe school programs, identify promising components of local school safety programs, exercise their school safety plans, and conduct school security surveys; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education recognizes the Michigan Safe Schools Initiative Workgroup at Michigan State University as the statewide coordinating organization for Michigan Safe Schools Week, October 19-25, 2003; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education has adopted substantive policies regarding Safe Schools, with the goal of perpetuating safe school environments, conducive to learning for all students; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education encourages each Michigan school district to promote, coordinate, and participate in a statewide "Safe Schools Pledge" signing ceremony; and

WHEREAS, schools across Michigan will be participating in a statewide "Safe Schools Pledge" signing ceremony on Monday, October 20, 2003, at 11:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education recognizes the importance of community involvement and participation in promoting and maintaining a safe learning environment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Board of Education recognizes that every week is Safe Schools Week in Michigan schools; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Board of Education declares October 19-25, 2003 as a time set aside for special recognition of Michigan Safe Schools Week; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Board of Education encourages educators, emergency responders, students, parents, and community leaders to promote school safety by implementing a "Safe Schools Pledge" signing ceremony in their school.

Kathleen N. Straus, President

Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman